

[English]

Privatisation of Coal Mines

1267. SHRI MOHAN SINGH:
SHRI PIUS TIRKEY:
SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD
SINGH:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to privatise some of coal mines in the country to improve the production during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the losses suffered by the sick coal mines during the last three years alongwith the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) No, Sir. At present there is no proposal to privatise some of the coal mines in the country in order to improve the production during the Eighth Five Year Plan.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The information is being collected and to the extent available will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Requirement, Production and Import of L.P.G.

1268. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY:
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the annual production of LPG at present;

(b) the reasons for not meeting the LPG demand in full from the LPG production;

(c) whether the Government also import

gas from foreign countries;

(d) if so, the quantity and rate thereof alongwith the countries from where it is being imported;

(e) whether the Government propose to take any concrete steps to restrict its import; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (f) The production of LPG during 1990-91 was about 1244 Thousand MTs. The production is not adequate to meet the full demand and therefore, LPG is also imported. During 1990-91, about 329 TMT LPG valued at about Rs. 160 crores was imported. The imports in the spot market are not always relatable to specific countries. Efforts are being made to increase the indigenous production from existing units and by commissioning of new units.

Review of Production, Import and Prices of LPG

1269. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY:
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are reviewing the production, import and prices of LPG;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of the decisions taken so far; and

(d) if not, the time by which a decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (b). The production and the import of LPG is regularly reviewed with a view to maximise indigenous production. At present, there is no proposal